GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3390
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of Commerce had visited the United States in June this year to discuss various bilateral and multilateral issues including World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks alongwith the details of Memoranda of Understanding and reements signed as a result of the talks; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Commerce & Industry Minister had visited Washington in June 2008, inter alia, to meet the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and US Treasury Secretary for general discussions on the key issues of the Doha Round of WTO negotiations, specially the draft texts of Agriculture and Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) issued on 19th May 2008 and to iron out differences on crucial aspects of the WTO texts and to understand the position of each other.